

25 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Hearings of Special Subcommittee on
International Health, Education and Labor
Programs of the Senate Labor and Public
Welfare Committee

1. The undersigned on April 25, 1968, attended subject hearings in Room 4221, New Senate Office Building. The Subcommittee was chaired by Seantor Yarborough (Texas), a joint sponsor of S. 1779 with several other senators one of whom, Senator Morse (Oregon), participated in the subcommittee hearing. Senator Javits (New York), although not a co-sponsor of the bill is a Committee member, and participated during the testimony by the first witness, Joseph Beirne, President of the Communications Workers of America (CWA).

2. In addition to Beirne, three other witnesses were scheduled for appearance: James Fowler, President U.S. Youth Council; Edwin Golin, Chairman, Inter-American Partners of Alliance Business Committee and President of the Gauge Corporation, Wilmington, Delaware; and Edward Swartz, President, U.S. National Student Association. Fowler did not appear, having been delayed in New York.

3. Senator Yarborough, when the three other witnesses had testified, said the Subcommittee would be reconvened later in the day, if Fowler arrived in time; alternatively, the Subcommittee would reconvene at 10 a.m. April 26.

4. All of the witnesses testified in support of S. 1779. Highlights from their testimony, in the order of their appearance, are given below:

JOSEPH BEIRNE

Beirne came before the Subcommittee with "clean hands", had no CIA ties, would not know a CIA officer if he were sitting beside one, and would not recognize the head of CIA, "Helms or whatever his name is", if he saw him.

Some nerve!
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Beirne was very interested in Latin America where CWA has been active for ten years. These CWA programs have had ICA (gov't.) funds. (Yarborough interjected that the funds, from whatever source, had been used for good purposes; Morse volunteered that the CWA had asked for USG support). Beirne said CWA supports S. 1779; CWA has a \$5 million AID contract for LA projects; labor union and such private programs in LA are more effective than USG programs; S. 1779 is a people-to-people program of the type Beirne believes is the most effective in LA. Beirne would amend S. 1779 to make the disbursement of its funds less restrictive, to permit small, individual projects to receive support (e.g. chalk and chairs for schools and such people-to-people projects); Frei in Chile is a "bright light" in LA where too often juntas rule; Brazil contrasts with Chile, and another revolution in Brazil will come if the situation does not change.

AID?

(Yarborough interrupted to highly laud the work of the Peace Corps and Beirne agreed that the Peace Corps is doing a good job in LA).

Beirne said S. 1779 offers hope and would produce a greater return for fewer dollars than many official aid programs. (Yarborough interjected) that he was in favor of Beirne's proposed amendments to S. 1779; Morse similarly volunteered that he, too, supported Beirne's suggested amendments, and specifically referred to Beirne's recommendation that the bill have a feature allowing revolving fund loans. Morse indicated that Beirne's amendment would affect the bottom of page seven and the top of page eight of S. 1779 as it now stands).

Senator Javits, having been introduced by Yarborough, said he was familiar with the good work that CWA is doing in LA and then asked why Beirne favored a combination of foundation and USG funds. Beirne said S. 1779 cuts through red tape (indirectly criticizing AID) and would permit immediate action in the LA student, agricultural and labor fields. (Javits asked why foundations such as Ford couldn't help). Beirne said he had previously sought U.S. foundation support, but that it had been his experience that Ford and such foundations are not prepared to assist organizations of the type

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[REDACTED] Beirne further stated that he personally was experienced in U.S. fund-raising activities and could state that fund raising is increasingly difficult and that there are a limited number of possible donors to whom all fund-raisers find themselves appealing; therefore, a mix of private and S.1779-type foundation funds should and, in Beirne's opinion, could be worked out. (Javits concluded by stating that he was in favor of the people-to-people programs of the type Beirne favored).

Beirne commented that despite all the talk about anti-U.S. sentiment in LA, there simply was not anti-U.S. reaction to AIFLD which had, as is publicly known, received AID money.

Yarborough thanked Beirne for his very helpful testimony and expressed the hope that S.1779 would pass this session. Yarborough also directed that the Subcommittee's aides redraft the bill to include Beirne's suggested amendments.

(COMMENT: All three senators were very deferential to Beirne. Yarborough and Morse were particularly receptive to Beirne's ideas and seemingly anxious to manifest their appreciation for his support of S.1779). Neither Morse nor Javits stayed to hear Golin or Swartz)

EDWIN GOLIN

Yarborough introduced Golin by expressing his appreciation for Golin's efforts to appear before the Subcommittee. Golin referred to his prepared statement, saying that he preferred not to read it but to insert it into the hearing record.

Golin spoke extemporaneously of the success in LA of "Partners of the Alliance" (POA) which deals individually with peasants, workers and small businessmen, providing "seed money" for small-scale programs. He praised in particular the work of Jim (Beren?), who apparently is a POA worker in LA.

Golin stressed that POA attracts outside money at a rate of 10 to one; thus if S.1779's \$100,000 were to become a reality, POA could come up with

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million, 7 June 4

\$1 billion in other, private funds. Foundations such as Ford are not geared to deal with the very small loans of the type that POA specializes in. Passage of S.1779 is "vital" to the future of POA. Failure to enact S.1779 could cause many good programs to expire.

EDWARD SWARTZ

Schwartz

Yarborough's introduction of Swartz was brief. He said he understood Swartz wished to read a prepared statement, and invited him to do so.

Swartz's reading of the statement was hurried and, as there were no interruptions, it was not possible to record his points as fully as had been possible with Beirne and Golin.

In his opening remarks, Swartz noted that NSA has "not one cent" invested in overseas programs, has withdrawn from the ISC, and no longer has any overseas representatives.

NSA has "no guilt feelings" about its past association with CIA; in fact, foreign student organizations' support of NSA last summer had been greater and more understanding than had been the case within the U.S. student community. Swartz briefly traced the history of NSA and recalled the creation of the ISC as a counter to the IUS.

In 1964 many NSA members began to challenge NSA's Cold War roles, feeling that NSA programs were increasingly "out of step". In 1966 there was a demand that NSA overhaul its international programs. During 1967 NSA was unsuccessful in its efforts to get money from U.S. foundations (e.g. Ford).

Swartz outlined five areas of activities--mostly international in scope--in which NSA could utilize monies that S.1779 would provide; but he strongly emphasized the feeling of NSA officers, including himself, that NSA must maintain its independence. He said that NSA was opposed to having security checks made on its members, as the State Department required before sponsoring some NSA representatives' travel abroad. He noted in this connection that the Columbia,

Michigan and Wayne State University members of NSA had resigned from NSA because of their opposition to NSA's receipt of any USG funds whatsoever.

In closing, Swartz expressed his and NSA's admiration of Yarborough for the intent of S.1779 which Swartz wished to endorse.

(COMMENT: Yarborough did not question Swartz upon completion of Swartz's reading of his prepared statement. Unfortunately, copies of Beirne's amendments and Golin's and Swartz's prepared statements were not made available. The attached statement by Ralph T. Esterquest, was taken from the committee room table. Esterquest did not testify, nor was his name listed on the list of witnesses which I observed in the hands of a Subcommittee staff member.)

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Attachments 2

cc w/Alto sent to OLC